

# It Takes a City

DC Does it Best!





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### AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation

- Nonprofit that develops and provides proven early childhood education programs to the most underserved three- and four- year olds to close the achievement gap before students enter kindergarten.
- Developers of *Every Child Ready*, a comprehensive program that includes a two-year PS and PK curriculum, a professional development model and assessments
- Serve close to 1800 children, birth-to-five, in Head Start community-based and public charter school settings in Washington, DC.

## The Challenge

- Develop pedagogical and content knowledge of a workforce characterized by limited content specific training and/or experience and high turn-over
- Build capacity to implement the *Every Child Ready* model with consistent highquality and fidelity at scale
- Provide data-driven, research-based professional development resources to current and future implementers of *Every Child Ready* and the early childhood educator community
- Leverage technology to effectively and efficiently reinforce, enhance and extend current face-to-face professional development model



- Brief videos modeling a targeted classroom quality indicator or content standard (1 % 4 minutes)
- Data-driven selection of just-in-time professional development topics and featured teacher
- Embedded commentary by curriculum specialists
- Distributed to over 500 subscribers via a weekly email
- Archived in the Vimeo on-demand video library





#### Hello LeAnne.

This week marks the end of our series of videos focused on **rote counting**, a **math** - **number concepts standard (MT-NC.2)**. In this series we highlighted a variety of effective strategies you can use to help your students practice rote counting skills throughout the day.

We conclude this series with a video featuring a PK classroom that is working on the end of year PK goal for rote counting, which is counting to the number 50. We would like to thank Ms. Lynch's PK classroom from the Tree of Life campus, and ECR curriculum specialist Annena Younger for her commentary.

#### This Week's Teaching Tip

Before practicing counting to large numbers, have children practice counting in chunks till they master each part. "This week, we are going to march as we practice counting to 10." Next week, have the children march as they practice counting from 10 to 20. These numbers are challenging as they don't follow a pattern. (i.e. eleven, twelve, thirteen). Once children easily count from 10 to 20, have children practice counting from 1-20. Be sure most of the children are able to count from 1 to 20 before advancing to the higher numbers. Otherwise, counting practice may reinforce saying random numeral names in the wrong order.

**ECR Mathematical Thinking Standard:** 

**Number Concepts - Rote Counting** 



CLICK ABOVE TO VIEW VIDEO
Math - Number Concepts:
Rote Counting

Clip Length: 1:54

A pre-kindergarten classroom practices the endof-year pre-K goal for rote counting, which is counting to 50. To do this, the teacher leads the students around the room, counting as they walk. The marching movement keeps the students engaged as they count to such a high number. The teacher listens to make sure that the students count accurately. When they make a mistake, the teacher stops and has them count

## **Example of Math Content Standard Focused Teachable Moment**

Rote Counting consistently identified as an area of need for students

Student performance in Rote Counting

	BAS	PM1	PM2	PM3
Viewers (PS)	0.52	0.85	1.22	1.65
Clickers (PS)	0.57	0.95	1.26	1.66
Non-Users (PS)	0.42	0.9	1.21	1.45
Viewers (PK)	1.3	1.74	2.09	2.43
Clickers (PK)	1.28	1.74	2.11	2.48
Non-Users (PK)	1.23	1.62	2.01	2.31



### Alignment with Principles of High Quality Professional Development and Adult Learning

- Job-embedded and relevant to real world challenges
- Competency-based with clear articulation and modeling of behaviors required for teacher success
- Ongoing with multiple opportunities to see best-practices
- Focused on small number of targeted learning goals; opportunities to deepen content knowledge and pedagogical skills
- Available anywhere, anytime with some element of choice based on personalized areas of need and interest





#### Hello LeAnne,

This videogram is the third in a series of Teachable Moments focused on concept development strategies teachers can use to promote students' higher-order thinking skills. This video is a great example of how a PS teacher uses experimentation and scaffolding questions to build students conceptual understanding of light, and shadow.

Thanks to AppleTree teacher Ms. Aleem and her 2013-14 PS class for sharing this practice, and to AppleTree principal Jevonna Willis for her commentary.

#### This Week's Teaching Tip

Strategies to support conceptual development include giving students opportunities to classify and compare objects, apply prior knowledge and make real world connections. A simple sorting game that builds these skills can be integrated into centers or transitions. Give students a set of pictures related to a concept being studied and ask students to sort them into categories—for example, sorting pictures of food into healthy and unhealthy examples, or sorting animals into herbkores or carnivores.

#### **ECR Quality Indicators:**

Support for Conceptual Understanding (DI):

- Scaffolding Questions The teacher consistently scaffolds questions to children's level of
- Supports Open-ended Solutions
   The teacher systematically helps children explore various solutions to an identified problem or question of interest.



Concept Development:

#### **ECR Quality Indicators**

QI-8: Support for Conceptual Understanding (DI) Scaffolding Questions; Supports Open-ended Solutions

#### Clip Length: 2:05

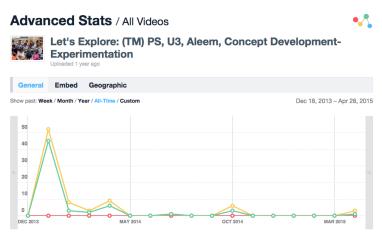
An instructional leader explains how a PS teacher supports her students' undenstanding of the concept of shadows. The teacher begins by informally assessing her students' undenstanding of shadows by asking them to guess what a shadow is. Next she points out an illustration of a shadow is not she points out an illustration of a shadow in a previously read story book and provides an explanation of what a shadow is and how it is made. She continues to explore the concept through experimentation by inviting students up to make shadows using a fleshight. As the students demonstrate how to make shadows she asks a series of questions that scaffled the students' ability to explain how a shadow in the statement is made.

## Example of Quality Indicator Focused Teachable Moment

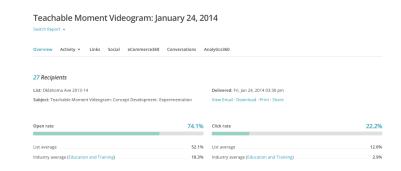
Concept development consistently identified as an area of growth for teachers



### **Vimeo and MailChimp Analytics**



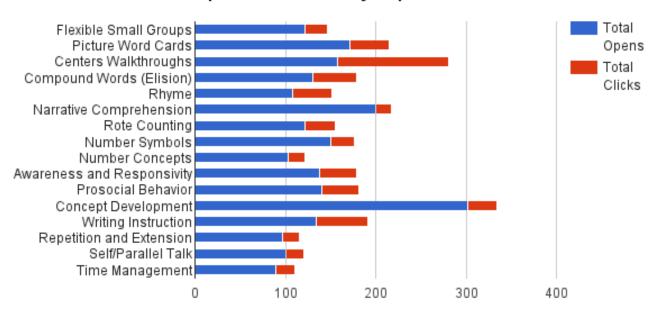
- Number of video views by date
- Tracks comments, likes, total loads and total plays



- Top campaigns
- Number of opens & clicks (video viewing)
- Top links clicked
- Subscribers with most opens



### Opens and Clicks by Topic







#### Hello LeAnne.

Setting up your centers for Unit 9? Use these videos as a guide! Each video is focused on a single center for either Preschool or PreK classrooms, and features example ideas for how to set up your centers.

Special thanks to Ms. Bell and Ms. Ellison from Tree of Life for walking us through the Preschool centers, and Ms. Williamson and Ms. Cromer-Snow from Center City Brightwood for walking us through the PreK centers.

#### Centers for PreK

### Writing Center

In Writing Center students are using words and pictures to share their thoughts on ways that animals can be saved and protected.



#### Centers for Preschool



Investigation
Location
In this center students are

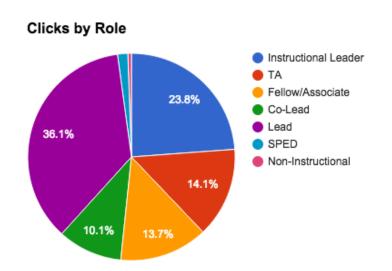
doing various activities centered on farms and the home. They are also practicing terms of direct contact and terms of proximity.

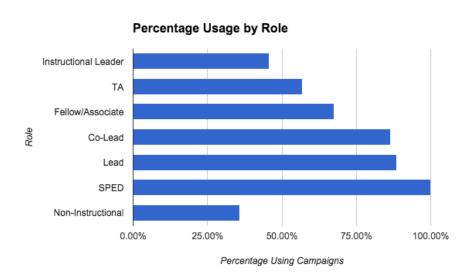
## **Example of Teachers Sharing Best-Practices Teachable Moment**

New implementers to the curriculum requested these Centers Walkthrough resources by unit



### **Use Data Observations**







### Feedback – comments from teacher surveys

"As a new educator to Every Child Ready curriculum, the Teachable Moments are helpful because they guide me in understanding how to implement each part of the curriculum to fidelity. They assist me in classroom management, transitions, flexible small groups and morning meetings."

"There is always an aspect that I can incorporate in my room in some way."

"One of the strategies that I have implemented from the Teachable Moment is rote counting. When children are counting their numbers and skip one of the numbers, I have them repeat the counting process and share with them shy he or she has to repeat the process. I like this strategy because it gives the child the opportunity to understand their mistake and recount."

"In the centers walkthrough videogram of the astronomy and space unit I found the Exploration Station ideas very helpful and implemented them in my classroom last week (i.e. measuring the moon crater and having students write the numerals.)"

It's a nice tool to use when trying to understand how to implement the various aspects of Every Child Ready and QI/CLASS measures."

